

CLAIMS

1. A communication system, comprising:

a plurality of client terminal devices connected to a predetermined network, each client terminal device being assigned a unique identification number; and

a communication server machine connected to the network and operable to manage, based on the identification numbers, user information related to each client terminal device which indicates at least conditions under which each client terminal device is connected to the network and when requested by a user to make a communication with another user, to select a communication application that is suitable for both the user and the another user based on the user information, and to make a connection for communication between the client terminal device of the user and the client terminal device of the another user.

2. A communication method, comprising:

managing user information which indicates at least conditions under which client terminal devices are connected to a predetermined network based on unique identification numbers respectively assigned to the client terminal devices;

selecting a communication application that is suitable for both a user and another user with which the user desires to communicate based on the user information; and

making a connection for communication between the client terminal device of the user and the client terminal device of the another user.

3. A user terminal device, comprising:

a list storage unit operable to store a list containing at least identification numbers respectively assigned to terminal devices for communication, addresses of the terminal devices, and conditions for connecting the terminal devices to a network;

an application storage unit operable to store a plurality of communication applications corresponding to different conditions for connecting the terminal devices to the network; and

a connection controller operable, when a user of

the terminal device selects a communication party from the list, to read out from the application storage unit a communication application that meets the conditions for connecting both the user terminal device and the terminal device of the communication party to the network, and to make a connection for communication between the user terminal device and the terminal device of the communication party.

4. The user terminal device according to claim 3, wherein the list is stored in the list storage unit after being downloaded from a communication server machine connected with the user terminal device through the network.

5. The device according to claim 3, wherein at least one of the list storage unit and the application storage unit is selected from the group consisting of a hard disk drive and a memory card.

6. A communication method, comprising:

selecting a communication party desired by a user from a list containing at least identification numbers respectively assigned to terminal devices for communication, addresses of the terminal devices, and conditions for connecting the terminal devices to a network;

selecting, out of a plurality of communication applications corresponding to different conditions for connecting the terminal devices to the network, one communication application that meets the conditions for connecting both the terminal device of the user and the terminal device of the communication party to the network; and

making a connection for communication between the terminal device of the user and the terminal device of the communication party.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the list is downloaded from a communication server machine connected to the network.

8. The method according to claim 6, wherein at least one of the list and the plurality of communication applications is stored in a storage unit selected from the group consisting of a hard disk drive and a memory card.

9. A computer-readable recording medium having

recorded thereon a communication program, the program causing a computer to execute the steps of:

receiving a request from one user to start a communication with another user through client terminal devices of the users;

searching a database having user information stored therein for the user information of the one user based on a unique identification number assigned to the client terminal device of the one user, the user information including at least conditions under which each client terminal device is connected to a network;

searching the database for the user information of the another user based on a unique identification number assigned to the client terminal device of the another user;

selecting a communication application that is suitable for both the one user and the another user based on the user information of the one user and the another user; and

making a connection for communication between the client terminal device of the one user and the client terminal device of the another user based on the selected communication application.

10. A computer-readable recording medium having recorded thereon a communication program, the program causing a computer to execute the steps of:

selecting a communication party desired by a user from a list containing at least identification numbers respectively assigned to terminal devices for communication, addresses of the terminal devices, and conditions for connecting the terminal devices to a network;

selecting, out of a plurality of communication applications corresponding to different conditions for connecting the terminal devices to the network, one communication application that meets the conditions for connecting both the terminal device of the user and the terminal device of the communication party to the network; and

making a connection for communication between the terminal device of the user and the terminal device of the

communication party.

11. The recording medium according to claim 10, wherein the communication program causes the computer to further execute a step of downloading the list from a communication server machine connected to the network.

12. The recording medium according to claim 10, wherein the list is stored in a list storage unit selected from the group consisting of a hard disk drive and a memory card, and the plurality of communication applications are stored in a communication application storage unit selected from the group consisting of a hard disk drive and a memory card.

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